

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

At page 96, please the paragraph starting at line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

$\beta^1$  Oligonucleotide 17456 (SEQ ID NO. 173), a fully phosphorothioated analog of 18122, was compared to a saline control and fully phosphorothioated oligonucleotide of random sequence (Oligonucleotide 17460). Results of this experiment are shown in Figure 44 10.

At page 96, please the paragraph starting at line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

$\beta^2$  As shown in Figure 44 10, for all doses of oligonucleotide 17456 tested, there is a protective effect, i.e. a reduction of disease severity. At 0.2 mg/kg, this protective effect is greatly reduced after day 20, but at the higher doses tested, the protective effect remains throughout the course of the experiment (day 40). The control oligonucleotide gave results similar to that obtained with the saline control.